

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of managing the distribution of facsimile messages to a
2 recipient, comprising:
3 receiving a message from a transmitting facsimile via a telephone network, the
4 message comprising receiving fax server telephone number appended with a recipient
5 direct dial telephone number;
6 automatically parsing the message to extract the recipient direct dial telephone
7 number from the message;
8 receiving a fax payload from the transmitting facsimile in the fax server;
9 determining an e-mail address and at least one recipient fax preference from
10 the direct dial telephone number;
11 processing the fax payload according to the recipient fax preference; and
12 directing the processed fax message according to the recipient fax preference.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of processing the fax payload
2 in the fax server according to the recipient fax preference comprises the steps of:
3 reading a grayscale transform from a memory accessible to the fax server; and
4 applying the grayscale transform to the fax payload.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of automatically parsing the
2 message to extract the recipient direct dial telephone number from the message is
3 performed by a fax card.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of automatically parsing the
2 message to extract the recipient direct dial telephone number from the message is
3 performed by a processor responding to instructions to extract the recipient direct dial
4 telephone number from the message.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining an e-mail
2 address and at least one recipient fax preference from the direct dial telephone number
3 comprises the steps of :
4 calling an application program interface in the fax server to an application
5 managing recipient information comprising the e-mail address and the direct dial
6 telephone number of the recipient; and
7 searching the recipient information for the e-mail address corresponding to the
8 direct dial telephone number.

1 6. The method of claim 1, the message further comprises a transmitting
2 facsimile identification and wherein the fax preference describes an identification of a
3 junk fax source, and the step of processing the converted fax message according to the
4 recipient fax preferences comprises the step of deleting the received fax payload if the
5 transmitting facsimile identification corresponds to the identification of the junk fax
6 source.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the fax preference describes a
2 preferred portable document format, and the step of processing the fax payload in the
3 fax server comprises the step of converting the fax payload to the preferred portable
4 document format.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the fax preference describes
2 forwarding fax information, and the method further comprises the step of forwarding
3 the fax message according to the forwarding fax information.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting a
2 confirming message to the transmitting facsimile.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the confirming message comprises a
2 portion of the fax payload.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the means for processing the fax
2 payload in the fax server according to the recipient fax preference comprises:
3 means for reading a grayscale transform from a memory accessible to the fax
4 server; and
5 means for applying the grayscale transform to the fax payload.

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1 14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the means for automatically
2 parsing the message to extract the recipient direct dial telephone number comprises a
3 processor responding to instructions to extract the recipient direct dial telephone
4 number from the message.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the means for determining an e-
2 mail address and at least one recipient fax preference from the direct dial telephone
3 number comprises:

4 means for calling an application program interface in the fax server to an
5 application managing recipient information comprising the e-mail address and the
6 direct dial telephone number of the recipient; and

7 means for searching the recipient information for the e-mail address
8 corresponding to the direct dial telephone number.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 11, the message further comprises a
2 transmitting facsimile identification and wherein the fax preference describes an
3 identification of a junk fax source, and the means for processing the converted fax
4 message according to the recipient fax preferences comprises means for deleting the
5 received fax payload if the transmitting facsimile identification corresponds to the
6 identification of the junk fax source.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the fax preference describes a
2 preferred portable document format, and the means for processing the fax payload in
3 the fax server comprises means for converting the fax payload to the preferred
4 portable document format.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the fax preference describes
2 forwarding fax information, and the apparatus further comprises means for
3 forwarding the fax message according to the forwarding fax information.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for transmitting a
2 confirming message to the transmitting facsimile.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the confirming message comprises
2 a portion of the fax payload.

1 21. A program storage device, readable by a computer, tangibly embodying
2 at least one program of instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps
3 of managing the distribution of facsimile messages to a recipient, the method steps
4 comprising the steps of:

5 receiving a message from a transmitting facsimile via a telephone network, the
6 message comprising receiving fax server telephone number appended with a recipient
7 direct dial telephone number;

8 automatically parsing the message to extract the recipient direct dial telephone
9 number from the message;

10 receiving a fax payload from the transmitting facsimile in the fax server;

11 determining an e-mail address and at least one recipient fax preference from
12 the direct dial telephone number;

13 processing the fax payload according to the recipient fax preference; and

14 directing the processed fax message according to the recipient fax preference.

1 22. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the method step of
2 processing the fax payload in the fax server according to the recipient fax preference
3 comprises the method steps of:

4 reading a grayscale transform from a memory accessible to the fax server; and

5 applying the grayscale transform to the fax payload.

1 23. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the method step of
2 automatically parsing the message to extract the recipient direct dial telephone
3 number from the message is performed by a fax card.

1 24. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the method step of
2 determining an e-mail address and at least one recipient fax preference from the direct
3 dial telephone number comprises the method steps of :
4 calling an application program interface in the fax server to an application
5 managing recipient information comprising the e-mail address and the direct dial
6 telephone number of the recipient; and
7 searching the recipient information for the e-mail address corresponding to the
8 direct dial telephone number.

1 25. The program storage device of claim 21, the message further
2 comprises a transmitting facsimile identification and wherein the fax preference
3 describes an identification of a junk fax source, and the method step of processing the
4 converted fax message according to the recipient fax preferences comprises the
5 method step of deleting the received fax payload if the transmitting facsimile
6 identification corresponds to the identification of the junk fax source.

1 26. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the fax preference
2 describes a preferred portable document format, and the method step of processing the
3 fax payload in the fax server comprises the method step of converting the fax payload
4 to the preferred portable document format.

1 27. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the fax preference
2 describes forwarding fax information, and the method steps further comprises the
3 method step of forwarding the fax message according to the forwarding fax
4 information.

1 28. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the method steps
2 further comprising the method step of transmitting a confirming message to the
3 transmitting facsimile.

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